lighting systems are proposed to be installed/ distributed during the year 1993-94 under the Socially Oriented and Market Oriented Schemes.

(c) and (d) In the State of Gujarat, the following solar photovoltaic lighting systems have been installed as on 31-3-1993 :

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Street Lighting Systems | : | 1563 |
| Domestic Lighting Systems | : | 370 |
| Community Lighting/TV Systems | : | 51 |
| Photovoltaic Power Plants for lighting and other applications | | 3 |

**Rural Electrification by Solar Energy**

630. SHRI KRISHNA LAL SHARMA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that solar power is the cheapest way to electrify the villages of the country as compared to conventional sources;

(b) if so, the number of villages electrified through solar energy;

(c) the steps being taken to boost the use of solar power in the country; and

(d) future plan of Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR):

(a) The electrification of small and remotely located villages by solar power is economically viable, as compared to conventional sources.

(b) A total of 9443 villages in different States/UTs have been provided with solar lighting systems under the Solar photovoltaic programme.

(c) and (d) A new strategy and Action Plan for large scale utilisation of solar power in the country through further research and development, industrial production and commercialisation has been prepared. New schemes with socially oriented and market oriented approaches are being introduced. Under these schemes, over 1 lakh solar lighting systems, 1000 solar water pumping systems and 100 village level power plants are proposed to be established during 1993-94.

**Candidates in Civil Services Examinations 1992**

631. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) what was the total number of candidates appeared in the 1992 UPSC Civil Services Examination;

(b) how many of them have qualified and were recommended for appointment;

(c) the number of SC and ST who have been recommended for appointment; and

(d) whether reservation to OBC by Mandal Commission had been adhered to by Government; if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) Number of candidates appeared in 1992 UPSC Civil Services Examination (Main): 10302

(b) Number of candidates qualified and recommended for appointment: 761

(c) Number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe who have been recommended for appointment : SC-128
ST- 59

(d) Whether reservation to OBC by Mandal Commission had been adhered to by Govt.; if not the reasons therefor ?

The rules for the Civil Services Examination, 1992 were notified on 28th December, 1991. Since the rules did not provide for any reservation to Other Backward Classes, no reservation to OBCs was made in the Civil Services Examination, 1992.

**Revision of Scale of Assistants**

632. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have sanctioned the scale of Rs. 1640—2900 to the Assistants including in CSS;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred on them and the number of employees benefited pursuant to this action;

(c) whether Government have received representations from other employees holding the previous scale of Rs. 1400—2600 for